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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/057,443 | 01/25/2002 | Arkady Kokish | 9600.5891 | 1294 |

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EXAMINER

MENDEZ, MANUEL A

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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3763

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,443

Applicant(s)

KOKISH, ARKADY

Examiner

Manuel Mendez

Art Unit

3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on August 18, 2004 (Decision on Petition).
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

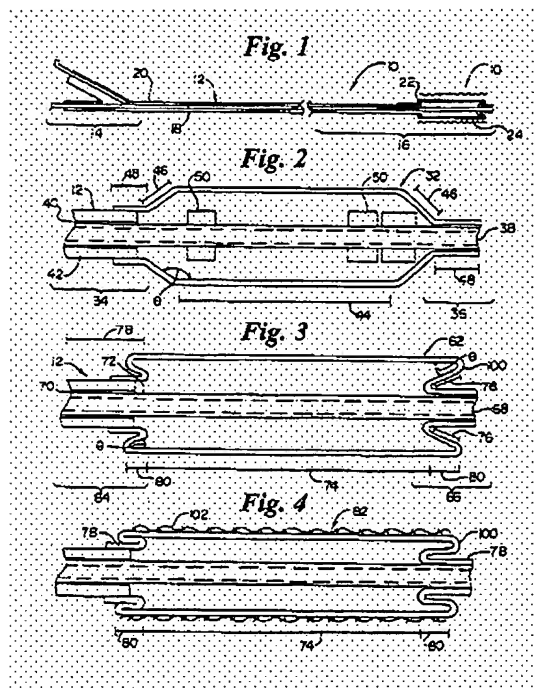
In accordance with the holding of the "Decision on Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment" dated August 18, 2004, the Notice of Abandonment mailed on March 8, 2004 was in error and consequentially vacated for the record. In view of this holding, the examiner of record conducted a secondary search that produced relevant prior art. Accordingly, the following rejections are presented for the review of the applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

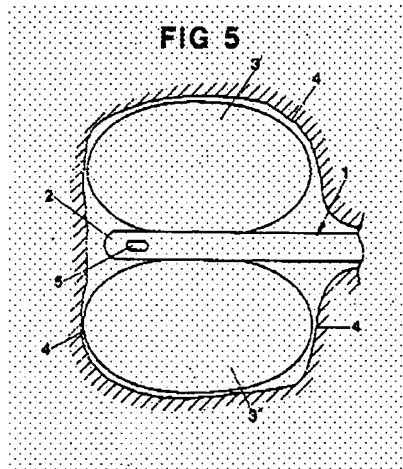
Claims 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Adams in view of Nordqvist, et al.**



In figures 1-4, the Adams Patent shows a balloon catheter comprising of a catheter shaft and a balloon having a central working section with a proximal end and a distal end, and having proximal and distal end portions which extend inwardly with respect to the working section, the central working section and the proximal and distal end portions defining an interior chamber which inflates to an inflated configuration.

The Adams Patent does not disclose proximal and distal secured sections that are secured to the catheter shaft and located at positions on the shaft which are between the proximal end and the distal end of the central working section of the balloon in the inflated configuration. Figures 3 and 4 of the Adams Patent show secured sections located partly outside the range that extends between the proximal end and the distal end of the central working section of the balloon in the inflated configuration. However, balloon designs having secured sections between the proximal

end and the distal end of the central working section of the balloon in the inflated configuration are conventional in the art as evidenced by the Nordqvist, et al.



In figure 5, the Nordqvist, et al., Patent shows a balloon design having secured sections between the proximal end and the distal end of the central working section of the balloon in the inflated configuration. Based on the teachings of Nordqvist, et al., for a person of ordinary skill in the art modifying the balloon design disclosed by Adams with secured sections between the proximal end and the distal end of the central working section would have been considered obvious. Moreover, the above design would have enhanced the deployment capabilities of the catheter by isolating the distal end of the catheter from contact with the body and would have provided uniform expansion of the balloon when the balloon is inflated in the body. In relation to the specific angles disclosed in claims 22-24, the specific angles would have been inherent to the balloons in figures 3 and 4 during the inflation process.

Conclusion

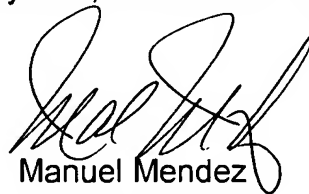
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Importantly, the above rejection includes new references that

have not been utilized in any of the prior rejections of the prosecution of this application. Accordingly, this office action is not final.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manuel Mendez whose telephone number is 703-308-2221. The examiner can normally be reached on 0730-1800 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Brian Casler can be reached on 703-308-3552. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Manuel Mendez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3763

MM